



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Kazutoshi YASUNAGA et al.

Appl. No: 09/440,093

Filed: November 15, 1999

For: EXCITATION VECTOR GENERATOR, SPEECH CODER AND  
SPEECH DECODER

Group Art Unit : 2655

Examiner: Opsasnick

Confirmation No.: 2522

Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313

**RECEIVED**

JAN 30 2004

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

Responsive to the final Office Action mailed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 25, 2003, in which the three month shortened statutory period for responding thereto is extended from December 25, 2003 to January 26, 2004 (January 25, 2004 being a Sunday) by a simultaneously filed request for a one month extension of time and payment of the appropriate extension of time fee, reconsideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the following:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 25 of this paper.